IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No.

: National Phase Entry of PCT/EP2003/007983

Applicant

: Elmar KIBLER et al

Filed

: Herewith

TC/A.U.

Examiner

Docket No. : 3165-116

Customer No.: 6449

Confirmation No. :

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Please enter the following amendments before calculation of the filing fee and examination of the merits.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 3 of this paper.

Please add the Abstract which is on page 22 of this paper as the last page of the application.

Remarks begin on page 24 of this paper.